

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-12

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R 041400 Z MAY 73

FM AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1455

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

UNCLAS THESSALONIKI 0277

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: PINT, PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: EDITORIAL COMMENT ON GREEK- TURKISH RELATIONS

REF: THESSALONIKI 253

1. " ELLINIKOS VORRAS" OF MAY 4 CARRIES EXTENSIVE LEAD EDITORIAL BY CHIEF EDITOR ELIAS KYROU ON CURRENT RELATIONS WITH TURKEY AND QUESTION OF MUSLIMS IN WESTERN THRACE. KYROU DECRIES " FIERCE ANT I- HELLENIC PROPAGANDA" IN TURKSISHO PRESS WHICH " EXCEEDS LIMITS OF LOGIC".

2. LENGTHY EDITORIAL FOCUSSES ON REPORTED REQUEST BY TURKISH AMBASSADOR GURUN FOR JOINT GREEK- TURKISH REVIEW OF CYPRUS ISSUE, POSITION OF MUSLIMS IN WESTERN THRACE, GREEKS IN TURKEY, AND TURKISH TERRITORIAL WATERS , AS WELL AS REPORTED CALL BY FOREIGN MINISTER BAYULKEN TO SUBMIT ISSUE OF WESTERN THRACE TO U. N. KYROU STRONGLY CRITICIZES " POLICY OF TOLERANCE" TOWARD TURKEY BY PAST GREEK GOVERNMENTS AND DISMISSES TURKS AS " CRAZY" FOR LINKING WESTERN THRACE TO OTHER BILATERAL ISSUES.

3. KYROU STATES THAT WESTERN THRACE IS PART OF METROPOLITAN
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GREECE AND THREATS AGAINST IT BY TURKEY WOULD RESULT IN
GREEK ACTION AGAINST TURKISH THRACE. GREECE, HE CLAIMS, COULD RAISE
25 DIVISIONS IF NECESSARY TO PROTECT WESTERN THRACE AND
"CAPTURE" EASTERN THRACE. TURKS WOULD ALSO BE "CRAZY"
HO SEEK EXTENSION OF TERRITORIAL WATERS TO INCLUDE
GREEK ISLANDS SUCH AS MYTILINI, CHIOS, SAMOS, RHODES, ABDUL MANNAN,
MINISTER HEALTH AND FAMILY PLANNING
(FORMER HOME MINISTER) WILL LEAD 3- MAN BENGALIEE DELEGATION WHICH
DEPARTING DACCA MAY 5. OTHER DELEGATES ARE DR. K. A. KHALEQUE,
DIRECTOR HEALTH SERVICES (CURATIVE) AND WALIUR RAHMAN, CHIEF OF
BENGLADESH MISSION IN SWITZERLAND. PRESS ADDS THAT AFTER WAH
CONFERENCE, MANNAN LIKELY TO VISIT UK, USSR, AND GDR, RETURNING BD
LATTER PART OF MAY.

4. FOR DELHI: PLEASE INFORM AMBASSADOR LHO OF THESE DEVELOPMENTS,
AS PROMISED PARA 1 REFTEL B.
NEWBERRY

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
NMAFVVZCZ

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*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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